

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mary Our Mother is a Catholic community committed to the spiritual growth of all people as we share our faith and serve our community.



January 19, 2020

816 West Broad Street, Horseheads, New York (607) 739-3817

COMMUNION PROCEDURES

According to statistics from the National Center for Disease Control, New York State is one state which has experienced an increase in the number of reported cases of the flu. Therefore, we will suspend offering Communion from the cup until further notice. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Beat the winter blues and join St. Mary Our Mother School families at the Holiday Inn Riverview, Elmira for 2020 E\$CAPE: Big Money Raffle and Trivia by TORGO Entertainment on Saturday, February 8th. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets to the event are \$25.00 each or a pair for \$40.00 and includes admission, a buffet dinner by Anthony's Restaurant and trivia by TORGO Entertainment. In addition to the Big Money raffle and trivia, the evening will also feature a live auction, penny raffle and St. Mary Our Mother School art auction! Unable to attend and still want to support the event? Purchase a Big Money Progressive Raffle ticket for \$100 each. If we reach our goal of selling 350 Big Money raffle tickets, the top payout will be \$10,000. Only 400 tickets will be sold! A total of four monetary prizes will be awarded. Big Money raffle ticket purchasers need not be present to win. Tickets for the Big Money raffle and 2020 E\$cape may be purchased in the school main office between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Also, parents will be selling tickets after all weekend Masses during the month of January and the first weekend in February. Tickets may be purchased with cash or check. All proceeds from this event benefit St. Mary Our Mother School.

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday**, January 20th, in observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The office will open on Tuesday, January 21st at 9:00 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

On the cusp of fame, power, or influence, would you turn it down? Today's Gospel again features John the Baptist. Controversial but popular, John has gathered quite a group of followers. He has disciples. People come from near and far to be baptized by him. Pharisees and government leaders are drawn to his preaching. If John was another man, a lesser man, he would have claimed his own greatness. Instead, John the Baptist is a witness to humility.

"The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold the Lamb of God ... He is the one of whom I said, "A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me."... the reason why I came baptizing with water was that He might be made known."" Rather than point to himself, John points to Christ. John could have grasped at what he had accumulated. He could have seen Jesus as a Messianic competitor. Instead, John knows who He is. He knows His place as forerunner. Because John knows who Jesus is. "I have seen and testified that He is the Son of God."

A life of humility, a life for others, can be challenging to live. So much of our culture is built around achievement and individualism. We can justify it, too, in pursuit of "greater goods" and higher ideals. In the process, however, we might miss our own participation in the kingdom of God. John, for all of his humility, was not an afterthought. In another Gospel passage, Jesus calls him "the greatest prophet," even the greatest of men. Why? Because he fulfills the mission given to him by God: to announce the coming of the Messiah. We too are prophets and forerunners. Our witness to the Gospel is meant to point people to Jesus. Consider your own mission this week. To whom are you called to announce the good news of the Son of God?

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WEEKLY CALENDAR		
Monday, January 20		
	Mary Queen of Peace - chapel	
	Knights of Columbus - school	
Tuesday, January 21		
	Religious Education - school	
	RCIA - school	
	Quilter's Prayer group - school	
Thursday, January 23		
	Children's Choir - church	
Friday, January 24		
• ·	·	
9:30 AM Ladies' Prayer group - rectory Saturday, January 25		
• ·	Sacrament of Penance - church	
Sunday, January 26		
	Home Study - Junior High - school	
	Youth Choir - church	
5:00 PM	Regional Mass - St. Peter & Paul	
6:00 PM	Confirmation candidate meeting (mandatory	
	parent meeting to follow)	
7:00 PM		

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Ruth Broderick

MEMORIALS

Sanctuary Candle:

In loving memory of Les & Martyn Reimsnyder - daughter, Nancy

Dominic Lisi

Eucharistic Hosts:

In memory of Abraham Felipe - Macapinlac family

FLOWER DONATIONS:

Main Altar Arrangement:

(2) In memory of Raymond Sherwood - his wife, Deloris Chapel Candle Flowers:

In loving memory of Raymond Sherwood - the Alsworth family

For Shane on his day - Dee

Blessed Mother – Church:

Happy 7th birthday, Max Adams - Kathleen Adams Blessed Mother – Chapel:

Happy 7th birthday, Max Adams - Kathleen Adams

FLOWER SIGN UPS

Thank you for your many flower donations. There are new forms posted on the bulletin board for upcoming weeks. Please consider a flower donation to commemorate special events in your life.

SCRIPTURE READINGS SUNDAY - January 26, 2020 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Second Reading: Gospel:

Isaiah 8:23-9:3 ng: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 Matthew 4:12-23

IN OUR PARISH Super Bowl Collection

Our Social Ministry Committee will be collecting donations the weekend of **February 1st and 2nd**, Super Bowl Sunday, after all the Masses. Parishioners of St. Mary Our Mother have always been very generous in sharing their good fortune with those less fortunate. The proceeds from this collection will be donated to the Horseheads Food Pantry. It is a pleasure to see young people holding the helmets at the end of Mass at each of the exits. If you have young people who are able to do this, please ask them to help! A signup sheet for all of the masses is posted on the bulletin board. This will only take about 15 minutes of your time after Mass. Thank you.

Parish Calendars

The parish of St. Mary Our Mother is sincerely grateful to the Lynch Funeral Home for their donation of our 2020 parish calendars. Thank you!

St. Mary Our Mother School Registration

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for grades pre-k 3 through grade six. Openings will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents or guardians who are new to St. Mary Our Mother School will need: birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization records and a completed parish commitment form for members of the parish. The non-refundable registration fee is \$150 per family. Both before and after school care are available. For further information, call St. Mary Our Mother School at 739-9157.

Mass Intentions

Any one of our regularly scheduled Masses may be offered for a specific intention - in memory of a deceased person, for a sick person's recovery, a special birthday, a special anniversary or other occasion.

Please call the parish office at 739-3817 to request your Mass.

(In Our Parish continued on page 4...)

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

This week finds us returning to the Sunday of Ordinary Time, which will continue until Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, which this year falls on Wednesday, February 26th. This weekend also invites us to prayerfully remember the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose memory we honor on Monday. In addition, every January from the 18th to the 25th, we observe the Week of Christian Unity, where we are invited to pray for greater unity among all Christian and non-Christian Churches. A third theme we are invited to focus our efforts on is a great respect for all human life.

Every year since his death, we have been reminded of the legacy of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** Dr. King stood for the equality of all people, and especially spoke of his "dream", when all would sit at one table, when all would be able to ride the same bus, when all were looked upon and were identified by their gifts and talents and not by the color of their skin. His tragic and violent death, like modern day terrorism and violence, are hard reminders that humans can act in terrible and tragic ways. Dr. King's death, as well as any act of violence or terrorism, are sobering reminders that we have yet to achieve Dr. King's dream. This holiday weekend affords us an opportunity to address any personal prejudice that might be a part of our personal lives, and to recognize the common integrity of every human being.

The Supreme Court's decision of Roe vs. Wade to legalize abortion in the United States met its critical crisis in defending human life as beginning not at conception but at natural birth. Since that day, we have had great challenges trying to explain that life begins at conception. If the child in the womb is a person, by American standards, that person has individual rights. The theology of the Roman Catholic Church defines human life beginning at conception. While this definition has caused many painful decisions to be made on the part of parents, it is a starting point for conversation about our understanding of human life. Jesus 'life' is defined from the moment of the Annunciation, when Mary said "yes" to the angel. Mary's 'life' began at the Immaculate Conception, as the sinless vessel of God. The annual anniversary of Roe vs. Wade serves as a reminder that we need to re-affirm our belief of human life beginning at conception.

Ever since the Second Vatican Council, the Church has set aside eight days in January - specifically January 18 through 25 - as a **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. It is a time when we acknowledge our common bonds with our Christian sisters and brothers in our faith. We worship a common God, and we find our religious foundations in common tradition. For the most part, we utilize the same scriptures for our prayer and faith formation. For many, our ritual of worship is somewhat similar, often using the same hymns and prayers. This week of prayer for Christian Unity is our commitment to our Lord's Prayer at the Last Supper, "*that all may be one.*" (John 17:21) Since the Second Vatican Council, we have come to realize that our unity can be expressed in many ways. Perhaps the most popular example of this is the annual Service of Lessons and Carols, held each December, usually on the Second Sunday of Advent.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 20 - Weekday

- 6:45 AM Randy Hansen Bob & Becky Corcoran
- Tuesday, January 21 St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
- 6:45 AM Sal Sidari Caterina Ruggiero

Wednesday, January 22 - Day of Prayer for the Legal

- **Protection of Unborn Children**
- 6:45 AM Alessandro Trento, Jr. Dawn & Robert Fischer
- Thursday, January 23 Weekday
- 6:45 AM Nadia Lopez your loving family
- Friday, January 24 St. Francis de Sales, Bishop &

Doctor of the Church

- 6:45 AM For the Faithful Departed
- 9:00 AM St. Mary Our Mother School students, faculty & staff
- Saturday, January 25 Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle 5:00 PM Maria Aviles - Morales family
- Sunday, January 26 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 8:30 AM Richard Wing his wife, Judy & family
- 10:30 AM Pablo & Elisea Atienza Macapinlac family
- 5:00 PM Regional Mass Ss. Peter & Paul

So is there a common bond which unites the violence and terrorism in this world, to observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, to a greater awareness of human life, from the womb to the tomb; to the week of prayer for Christian Unity? It is the fact that we are people of the same God. Each person has a responsibility to see others as sisters and brothers, offering respect and dignity to each other. It is this responsibility that enables us to address issues such as human life beginning at conception, those who live in the grip of poverty, those who find themselves in prison, those who are close to death. We need to acknowledge the common bond that unites all Christian churches as the Body of Christ.

Have a great week. See you in church!

Fr. L.

IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED...

Altar Memorials

When Masses are not available for a particular day, Altar Memorials are a special way you can remember those who have died and those intentions you may wish to remember for the living.

Our Altar Memorials are available each week during the year. Donation for the week is as follows:

Sanctuary candle	\$10.00
Icon candle	\$10.00
Sacramental wine	\$15.00
Eucharistic bread (hosts)	\$10.00

REGIONAL EVENTS Oppose Physician-assisted Suicide

While we may not often consider end-of-life issues, now is the time to pay closer attention. Several states have already legalized physician-assisted suicide, and efforts are underway to do so in New York State as well.

It's important to know what physician-assisted suicide does NOT mean, so let's start with clarification on Catholic teaching on end of life medical treatment. In their document, Now And At The Hour of Our Death, our NYS Catholic Bishops teach: "Out of deep respect for the gift of life, we must always accept, and others must provide, ordinary medical means of preserving life. Ordinary means are those that offer us a reasonable hope of benefit and would not entail excessive burden on us, our family or the community. Ordinary means of medical treatment are morally obligatory. Withholding ordinary care with the intention of causing death is considered passive euthanasia and is always gravely contrary to God's will. But Catholics are not morally bound to prolong the dying process by using every medical treatment available. Allowing natural death to occur is not the same as killing. Some treatments may be considered "extraordinary" (as opposed to ordinary) and are not morally obligatory because the burdens and consequences are out of proportion to the beneficial results anticipated for a These are considered morally particular patient. optional treatments." Opposition to physician-assisted suicide in New York State will be the focus for our Diocesan Public Policy Advocacy petition signing on February 8/9, 2020.

Notre Dame High School Open House

Notre Dame High school, grades 7-12 will hold an open house on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. The evening will begin with a presentation at 6:30 p.m. with campus tours to follow. Prospective students are invited to tour the school, meet current students, and engage with the faculty and administration. Notre Dame is a college preparatory school rich in the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy and academic excellence. Additionally, Notre Dame offers a competitive athletic program along with many opportunities to participate in the performing visual and language arts. Notre Dame is located at 1400 Maple Avenue, Elmira and is currently accepting applications for new students for the 2020/2021 school year. For further information, visit www.notredamehighschool.com or call 607-734-2267, ext. 9.

Horseheads Food Pantry

Non-perishable food and grocery items are being collected for the Horseheads Food Pantry this month. The Horseheads Food Pantry is in need of all food items and especially asks for canned soups for the month of January. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board. Thank you for your generosity!

MINISTERIAL STAFF		
Rev. Christopher E. Linsler, Pastor		
Rev. Richard F. Kajiru, In Residence		
Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo, Coordinator of Faith Formation		
Mrs. Cathy Peckham, Director of Music		
Mrs. Jean Yorio, School Principal		
Mr. Richard O'Lenick, Business Manager		
Mrs. Elizabeth Berliner, RCIA Coordinator		
Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo, Parish Secretary		
Mrs. Jeanne Carney, Facilities Coordinator		
Mrs. Maribeth Leipold, Faith Formation Secretary		
Mrs. Amy Barr, Faith Formation Associate		
Mrs. Sue Wood, Bulletin Editor		
Mr. Doug Johnson, Cemetery Manager		
Mrs. Kim Roemmelt, School Secretary		
Ms. Jenna Crandall, Maintenance		
Mrs. Maribeth Leipold, Faith Formation Secretary Mrs. Amy Barr, Faith Formation Associate Mrs. Sue Wood, Bulletin Editor Mr. Doug Johnson, Cemetery Manager Mrs. Kim Roemmelt, School Secretary		

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr. Vincent Moschetti, Chairperson				
Mrs. Richelle Riina, Recording Secretary				
CONTACT INFORMATION				
Parish Office				
816 West Broad Street				
Fax				
E-mailsmomc@stny.rr.com				
Parish Web Sitewww.StMaryOurMother.com				
St. Mary Our Mother School				
811 Westlake Street				
E-mailsmoms@dor.org				
School Web Sitewww.stmaryourmother.school				
Religious Education Office				
816 West Broad Street				
E-mailsmomfaithformation@gmail.com				

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Need a babysitter for Valentine's Day? St. Mary Our Mother Youth Group has you covered! On **Friday, February 14th** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., our youth group will be offering a night off for parents by providing babysitting for children in <u>pre-k through grade 4</u>. For just \$2.00, parents can drop their child(ren) off at O'Brien Hall for activities, games, and dinner. Our youth group members will be the primary caregivers: playing games, making crafts, and helping with the set up and cleanup of our space. CASE trained adults will be there to supervise and chaperone. To sign your child up, or if you have an older child (grade 5-12) who would like to help with this event, please call the Faith Formation office at 739-8214 or email <u>smomfaithformation@gmail.com</u>.

EVERY DAY STEWARDSHIP

How many times have you sung the church song, "Here I Am, Lord"? If you grew up Catholic and are around my age (still 50!), the answer is more than you can count. The song that quotes various verses of Scripture is sung using guitar, piano, or organ, by cantors and choirs, in traditional and modern churches. It is truly a Catholic greatest hit of the modern Church. The question is how many times when singing the refrain have you really taken to heart what you were singing. "Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." Like the biblical figure Samuel, we are responding to the call of God by asking for clarification that we are indeed the one being called. We then follow up the question with a profound statement: "I will go if You lead me." It is profound because we are pledging to our God that we are willing to go wherever He wants. We are accepting the challenge put forth in the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," to become mature disciples who respond to the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We have sung this pledge repeatedly for many years.

We never have any idea what God will call us to do and where to go. Sometimes the request can ask us for quite a lot. Hopefully, we respond like a mature disciple. If not, maybe we should reflect more the next time this song is played. The melody will not allow for the words, "I will see if I am busy and then decide to go if you lead me." Then again, I don't want to sing that to God, the source of all life anyway. Do you?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS Liturgical Publications, Inc.



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